GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2221
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2007
WATER DISTRIBUTION
Reddy Shri Karunakara G.

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a large scale inequitable distribution and mismanagement of water in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of availability, demand and supply of water for the current plan period and projected for the next plan periods, State-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) The average annual precipitation over the country is 1170 millimetre (mm). However, there is large spatial and temporal variation in the rainfall. The rainfall varies from about 100 mm in Western Rajasthan to over 10,000 mm in Cherapunji (Meghalaya). About 75% of the rainfall occurs during the monsoon period (June to October) and that too from a few spells of intense rainfall. As a result, there is considerable variation in the availability of water. There are instances of over-exploitation of the water resources, mostly ground water, in specific regions leading to lowering of ground water table and that of over irrigation in certain areas causing drainage congestion & water logging.

(b) The availability, demand and supply of water is not worked out Plan-wise.